

What is claimed is:

1. A method for transferring data in a storage system, the storage system comprising a management server, a media agent connected to the management server, a plurality of storage media connected to the media agent, and a data source connected to the media agent, the method comprising:

dividing the data source into at least a first and a second portion of data;

transferring the first and second portion of data from the data source to a first and second storage medium using a first and a second data stream respectively;

10 transferring the first and second portion of data from the first and second storage medium to a third storage medium using a third combined data stream.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the transfer from the first and second storage medium to the third storage medium is performed in chunks.

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3. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising transferring the first and second portion of data from the first and second storage medium to the third and a fourth storage medium using the third combined data stream and a fourth data stream respectively; and

20 wherein the transfer using the third and fourth data stream is performed based on the type of data of the data source.

4. The method as recited in claim 3, whether the transfer using the third and fourth data stream is performed substantially in parallel.

5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the transfer using the third data stream 5 is performed based on a client identification of the first and second portion of data.

6. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the transfer using the third data stream is performed based on respective stream numbers of the first and second streams.

10 7. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising transferring the first and second portion of data from third storage medium to a fourth storage medium based on respective times when the first and second portions of data were created.

15 8. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising transferring the first and second portion of data from third storage medium to a fourth storage medium based on respective offsets of the first and second portion of data stored on the third storage medium.

9. A system for transferring data, the system comprising:

a data source;

20 a media agent connected to the data source;

a management server connected to the media agent;

at least a first, second, and third storage medium connected to the media agent; wherein the data source is divided into at least a first and a second portion of data;

the media agent transfers the first and the second portion of data from the data source to the first and second storage medium using a first and second data stream respectively; and the media agent transfers the first and second portion of data from the first and second storage medium to the third medium using a third combined data stream.

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10. The system as recited in claim 9, wherein the transfer from the first and second storage medium to the third storage medium is performed in chunks.

11. A recording medium in a storage system with data stored thereon, the storage system comprising a management server, a media agent connected to the management server, a plurality of storage media connected to the media agent, and a data source connected to the media agent, the data produced by:

splitting data source into at least a first and a second portion;

transferring the first portion to a first storage medium using a first stream;

15 transferring the second portion to a second storage medium using a second stream; and

transferring the first and second portion of data from the first and second storage medium to a third storage medium using a third combined data stream.

12. A method for transferring data in a storage system, the storage system comprising a management server including a storage policy, a media agent connected to the management server, a plurality of storage media connected to the media agent, and a data source connected to the media agent, the method comprising:

dividing the data source into at least a first and a second portion of data;

transferring the first and second portion of data from the data source to a first number of pieces of storage media;

transferring the first and second portion of data from the first number of pieces of storage media to a second number of pieces of storage media, the second number being less than the first  
5 number.